In re Patent Application of:

WU ET AL.

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Serial No. 09/981,122

Filed: OCTOBER 17, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 13 are currently pending. Claims 1 to 9 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by United States Patent No. 5,889,904 (Pan et al), alone or in view of United States Patent No. 6,483,961 (Helkey). Claims 12 and 13 have been allowed, and claim 10 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 10. Claim 10 has been cancelled. Claim 13 has been amended to correct a typographical error therein.

Claims 14 to 17, dependent upon allowed claim 12, have been added to ensure all aspects of the invention are protected. Claims 14 to 17 are identical to claims already depending from claim 1, and accordingly do not constitute the addition of new subject matter.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to In re Patent Application of:

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Deposit Account No. 50-1465 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. WANDS

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: M/S NON FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, on this 15 day of December, 2003.

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